

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Senate Ways and Means

Feb. 13, 2008

SB 508 (Post –Secondary Savings Accounts for Low-Income Families)

Chairman Umbarger and members of the committee, the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services supports Senate Bill 508, which continues the matching savings program for post secondary school expenses for low-income individuals and families.

This saving program will help low-income individuals and families achieve greater economic security and stability. Lack of access to post-secondary education is a critical barrier preventing low-income individuals from building the personal and financial resources needed to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. Higher education results in increased personal income, greater earning potential, and contributes to continued economic growth in Kansas. Asset development programs, such as this savings plan, helps move families on a path of self-sufficiency. The KIDS College Match Savings Program enables individuals and families to save for the necessary education and training that will not only help them, but will pass on opportunities to future generations.

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services supports The KIDS College Match Savings Program as a means to assist families to move out of poverty.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony.